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Refugee crisis and response

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Hello and welcome to buck now occupied here are 90.5 WV BU Lewisburg in the studio with me tonight. I have MX charter from the Department of international relations. She studies the governance of immigration and asylum in the European Union and she's here tonight to talk about the refugee crisis both in Europe and throughout the Middle East. So welcome to studio Amick. Thank you, thank you very much for having me today so I'm wondering if we can die just start by sketching out the nature of what is being talked about as the refugee crisis. I think I at least within the American press. The term refugee crisis denotes a very specific problem that seems to have begun this summer that deals with the migration of Syrians and Iraqis through Turkey and on into the EU. Once on wondering if you can clarify that and talk about the extent to which that is helpful way to think about what's going on right now will I would say that that's an incomplete understanding. At best, so the refugee problem did not began last summer. It didn't begin in Europe and not everyone is coming by sea. So Syria is coming up on about five years of the Civil War now. Yes, we have seen a substantial spiking arrivals in Europe that which is true and there are several reasons for this is ongoing violence in the countries of origin not only which not only sends more people packing what makes return impossible in the short and maybe in the medium-term, there is deterioration in the conditions in neighboring countries which contribute to secondary movements of which were seen in Europe now is lack of opportunities for working education for refugees in the neighboring countries, which is also the reason why people might be moving but up until now about 90% of those leaving Syria were hosted in just three countries and none of them are in Europe. Actually, maybe one Jordan and Lebanon and Turkey depending on Europe or or the movies now are seeing a westward movement. For the reasons that I just talked about their mainly 3C roots the Western Mediterranean route goes from North Africa to Spain. The central Mediterranean route goes from North Africa to Italy but also Malta and Eastern Mediterranean route goes from Turkey to the Greek islands and then onwards also, but many are using land routes as well. The Eastern Balkans route. For example, goes through Greece, Macedonia, Serbia, Romania, Hungary and Austria onward to Germany is what mostly and when this is was mostly in the headlines today is sounds like it's it's it was the coverage really started with the Eastern Mediterranean route and now people are very focused on this right foot traffic there was. There was actually some coverage of the central Mediterranean route and primarily as a result of spikes in that sexy when people were trying to make the move from from North Africa into into Italy and other places but most recently would been focusing much more on not not necessarily the CRI was but but first see and then land arrivals into Western Europe. How many people are we talking about Libby's actually VA is very hard to be precise about these numbers but I'll try to give you a couple of estimates that are put forth by hopefully reliable international organizations that are supposed to be keeping track of the sorts of things at the moment Europe is receiving roughly 8000 asylums seekers a day, according to the original coordinator for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, which is this Europe UN specialized agency tasked with addressing refugee issues altogether, about 5000 of these

are arriving in Greek islands in the Aegean and many of those then are taking land routes to get to western Europe, about 500,000 have arrived this year so far and the vast majority of these are from Syria Iraq and Eritrea in 2014, 570,000 asylum applications were lodged in the 28 members of the European Union and this too is a significant increase about 44% increase from the pre-previous year. That was not all of these are coming from Syria and as far as how these numbers might compared to other places in the Middle East. They've taken actually many more millions rather than the thousands that were talking about now Turkey, for example, has taken in somewhere on the order of 2 million refugees. Jordan Scott 600 and 30,000 and Lebanon as 1.1 million. The three countries lead the charge. But even Iraq itself and embattled and very much a country of origin. Place has taken about quarter of a million people, which is roughly the same number of people coming into Greece this year and Egypt has taken in some some folks as well that you want to put this in context, Lebanon with a population of 4.2 million. If it takes in 1.1 million. That's the stuffed toy 5% of its population like Germany are you taking 20 million refugees to why is it then that that the majority of the news coverage leased in the United States focuses on the passage of refugees to Europe. Why has there not been very much attention to the fact that these extraordinary numbers are going to Lebanon, Turkey, and what if you were paying attention. You probably would've would've I don't I don't mean you know why I mentioned, i.e., you would've known that that most of the refugee flows were going into neighboring countries. There's been coverage of this you nice TR has been asking for yelp help. So if you knew where to read and where to look, you would probably have no now there's a lot more coverage about Europe, for starters. And that's probably one of the reason no hearing a lot more about it and knowing some ways there is a significant spike which puts pressure on European governments we see them bickering about this in the innate none that seems to be in the news as well. So the sorts of reasons are probably why we are hearing more about this and of course probably meet. That's all we know, we were getting the misguided notion that this is a new thing and just started happening when in fact the effective process up the case to can you walk us through and obviously unity the experience of every refugees going to be different, but can you walk us through what might happen to a refugee. Once they managed to land in one of the 28 member countries. Well, I mean if they're lucky enough to land an end. Some of them making the sea journey. Unfortunately have not been so lucky. It depends on where they landed. Unfortunately, some might be in countries where there are reasonably well-developed refugee reception programs or asylum asylum programs where they might be able to get get registered and make it eventually. A formal formal claim if they've ended up in other countries where the system is not quite as well developed their reality might be something completely different, where it went, including, of course, not being able to get into a country is important. Hungary then I'm sure standing out to many people as as paradigmatic of that. Are there other particular kinds of lines around which the member states are our clustering by demeanor that are there particular countries that are that have been more welcoming than we make any sort of sense of this, or is interested. Patchwork

what you mean by allergic to patchwork, but some countries have been much more impacted by this than others, and predictably, these are the countries that line the periphery of the European Union, Italy and Greece. Of course, have taken the brunt of the incoming flows right now are hearing about it. Hungary and other places as well. Germany for example has been remarkably open and Jen says it now expects 100,000 people to show up here alone but there's others are pushing back quite quite substantially as well and is there a way in which we can think about. You know that the countries which are pushing back against the arrival of refugees and the rise of far right or fascist parties in European countries what they've been as as we refugees keep trickling in the been actually pushed back from from right-wing both parties but also formations in countries there's been protests in any places in some places refugee camps have been attacked. These at least at least at this stage tend to be small they do get some media coverage, but overall are not seeing massive massive pushback from right-wing parties, but were also the beginning of this. The saga actually develop in that direction. So from your understanding the flow of refugees is not going to slow oil think so. No, I don't think so. Which I think opens up the question of the role of the United States 90 to what extent has have the actions of the United States in the Middle East actually contributed to the need for these people to leave Wyoming. The United States has recently announced that it will taken 10,000 refugees, which in and of itself is a stop and starts, but a drop in the bucket if you want to put it that way. Part of the problem is that there's a very lengthy background check process that's that's involved in bringing in refugees in this for fears of terrorism in the screening can run about 18 months and people don't have this kind of time I read today that presidential Catalan Donald Trump. He escorted is that if you were to become president. These 10,000 people will go back immediately, others things like that. Now as far as motivating refugees to leave. What does it do what what does it, what does that is violence and destabilization to L5 years into the war there in a number of sides in Syria. There's the government there's the opposition to the government which can be bring together of a wide variety of ragtag groups ranging from secular to to religious groups and then there's Isis, which is increases foothold power and in this power vacuum. The United States and its allies are currently conducting airstrikes in Syria than the context of fighting ISIS and backs rebels battling serious sure LSI and now Russia Bethel saying the news has thrown its hat into the game as well and is the only staunch ally of the Asad government has started started its own airstrikes, ostensibly against ISIS targets, but it seems that that the real targets may be actually anti-asides rebels. This is starting in some ways to look like a proxy war is in executive thinking. Meanwhile, the United Nations has not been able to forge a consensus on how to proceed. So the Civil War drags on and all of this I would say additionally becomes destabilizing end and contributes to the problems with human security in the region, at least in the short term, and most pop probably will translate into further dislocations. Can you talk a little bit more about the role of ISIS and know that I imagine quite a few of our listeners up into been following coverage of exactly what they've been up to in the region. But what I mean in the midst of all of this there's a power vacuum

where where side and his opponents are trying to do get out, which creates a power vacuum in ISIS has actually used very effectively to escape, no extended foothold, not just in Syria would other places like the rock as well so they've gained territory they control more areas, which means of course that that the people who live in these areas are subject to treatment that they may not like to be subject to which further induces population displacement, possibly internally, but probably also internationally as well. What is Turkey been in terms of of taking taking the refugees. I know you don't Turkey has is both trying to stop the Kurds but also is is fighting ISIS will hasn't always been fighting ISIS ran some some of them there there some critics who say Turkey has done too little too late. Yes, in dealing with this saying Turkey has maintained generally and over no policy with respect to the series but the place where the place of arrival also happens to be all on the borders where a lot of skirmishes are going on. These are not the safest of areas which probably also is a reason why people who have been taking refuge in Turkey have been prompted to move elsewhere as well. 2 million people is not an insignificant number. Not all them are well cared for. Not all of them living camps. A lot of who may actually have moved elsewhere in Turkey and probably are on their way using the CN language to get to question Europe. How does the Turkish population. View the presence of these refugees. I don't think there's generally a negative negative reaction to it. But you have to understand this in the context of of course economic difficulties in employment. Some of this is seen in the context of further destabilizing the southeast of Turkey was able to start with. So overall I think the reaction hasn't been negative but rumblings on why why others mold health both financially and otherwise, I have the sales that Turkey there is an international legal regime that that protects refugees. This goes back to the 1951 Geneva Convention, which determines or describes whatever refugee is and then attaches certain protections to individuals who might in fact have a legitimate claim to refugee status. Ironically, when it was first put into place. The convention considered as refugees, people who came from basically European areas for for persecution that happened in the 1940s her story. Imagine you know why that is, of course, this was responding to war to end all and and all that so that the original treaty actually had both the time limitation and a origin limitation on who could in fact press a press for for refugee status later on. There was a protocol that tried to address this and lifted the time restrictions on it when it up to subsequent developments that might in fact get people moving from place to another entity also listed the geographic limitation as well. Turkey wax while signing this additional protocol said okay were fine with lifting the time restrictions to stick to your cut is refugees coming from Turkey, so Informix is before from from your okay so they see themselves as under no particular legal obligation to actually grant refugee status to people who might be coming from Syria is also the legal protections are therefore a little on the fisheye sides in Entergy. So as you explain it enemy that obviously I'm not expert in international law, of any sort sort and wondering if you can walk us through this so you're saying that there is that there is a protocol which you know doesn't place they restrictive criteria on this, but it's still up to signatory states to recognize the refugee status right states actually while the

right to seek asylum is a right that's protected under international law. The nursing declaration of human rights had it there. The couple of European conventions that actually have this notion as well to the right to seek asylum is a right that's protected under international law the other hand, there is no corresponding right to receive a silo okay right so so each individual state who is receiving applications for asylum goes through its own internal procedure to see how the individual story of the person asking for protection based on a what is called a well-founded fear of persecution on the number of grounds, the recipient state gets to decide if the individual story stacks up against this United Nations and convention definition so so and was why I say there's a right to seek asylum, but there is no right to actually receive David's seven is there any kind of oversight or standardization of different countries. Procedures for evaluating someone's worthiness. Well, I mean, actually, of all places. There are efforts in this direction in Europe. Okay, typically there isn't every country make these determinations all by themselves. But in Europe because of the border free regime that they're trying to develop. They've decided that they actually have to have some degree of harmonization to that you don't have the situation where the same asylum application can say be rejected in one country and accepted in another country. So starting the 1990s when the European Union first received a mandate to look into collectively deciding coming up with policies to apply to immigration and asylum. This was one of the motivating factors to have a comparable set of circumstances and review procedures in all countries, so that the equivalency would be provided for her but that doesn't seem to be working terribly well right now either write one particular sense. From what I understand they they suspended Schengen right so it's not actually order free anymore. Well, they didn't exactly suspend Schengen boxes variety of countries that are Schengen countries have temporarily reintroduced border control is really ironic. Right. This is the 30th anniversary of Schengen and 20 years since border controls have been abolished in the Schengen area, but the developments of over the summer has prompted a number of countries to temporarily suspended on there within their legal rights to do that, arguing that that arrivals have created difficulties in terms of security and providing for individuals or have not exactly illegal for them to to suspended but the moment they are doing. That speaks volumes. Rectors mean perhaps after the single currency. This this passport free zone is probably one of the highest achievements of the work can be regarded as one of the highest achievements of the European Union and and and now you're saying that exactly under significant strain where one country after another is reconsidering the openness of their borders on a temporary basis, but doing so. Nonetheless, so what happens to an asylum seeker. They show up their cases heard eventually turned down there turned out well okay there's a separate system that actually deals with that the okay. The European Union has ambitions due to create something called the common European asylum system and I don't know how how technical we want to get their butts from the 1990s. They've created a system whereby the idea there was to reduce what they consider asylum shopping so that you go to country you ask for asylum don't get it. He goes the next one, watch another asylum claim and see you know see where he

eventually end up. This was seen as not something that was desirable from the European Union countries perspective so they came up with a system to assign responsibility to who's going to be in charge of reviewing an asylum claim. These are typically the countries who may have issued visas or whose borders were crossed first when the individual came into the EU territory so and edit one of self. One corollary of that is that once one country recognizes somebody as a refugee. That person is actually recognizes a refugee and all of the Terry with the flipside of that is also true on somebody's actually turned down there asylum application is turned down in one of the European union countries than it's regarded as ineligible for subsequent application in other European Union countries is not unimportant how well that that system works in the countries in which which are initially responsible for reviewing the claim. So now would that person be deported at that point, or would they just need to provide for their own existence. They could be deported depending on on the circumstances or they can be tolerated. So they may not get refugee status but for humanitarian reasons. They made their presence might be tolerated or they could be deported now for these refugees that are supposedly going to come to the United States. Is that a process of the US Embassy. It it is somewhere identifying likely candidates and hat. How would that process was woodwork show with conjunction was between the United Nations, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the UNHCR their numbers of people who are eligible for resettlement and it would be decided through that. Which of these people would end up in the United Center. Of course ultimately's US decision who they're going to take, which is why was saying that that the lengthy procedures make you make it somewhat difficult for individuals to to get the nicest time manner. During this 18 month waiting period, essentially assuming that it only takes 18 months. These people are expected to just survive whatever it is they're living there not housed in some kind of temporary shelter while he could be any of these are people who are who are housed by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in some kind of camp or reception facility. Maybe be there more most likely right. And once they get to the United States is united states government paying for the relocation to a particular place in the country are they just letting them in. And then they provide for themselves. Like I can only imagine that there is a well thought through procedure of how you know how, what, where people are going right and how I can't imagine that they will be let loose. After arriving right seems to be Donald Trump's imaginary with a believe he said that their own men and they're all very strong and the NASA guys are all nicest and then using something like this could be 10,000 Isis firefighters who are coming through this way and that's bullish just call the signals of exaggeration, yes, but I mean it's part of a larger tort of Republican fantasy about the evils of the UN global governance we're hearing is also in Europe.meaning some places where there are. There's disquiet about taking people in especially coming from right wing xenophobic camps in you. You hear this as well. What if I'd like us to talk a little bit about Hungary, in particular in Hungary's own history with having had refugees right and then and then its current responses, while hungry, if you know we have been reading the news has now completed its fence with his

neighboring surveillances of three have meter high razor wire fence it's begun building one on his border with creation recently announced its can build another one on its border with Romania. I declared a state of emergency in his two southern count counties. It ordered its law enforcement to arrest anyone crossing borders without papers using pepper steak spray and sometimes water cannons and so far since disaster introductions since the introduction of these new measures they been rejecting all most all of the asylum claims within hours and arresting people. The irony here is of course unmistakable and was most recently pointed out by the by untenable parish who is in fact the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees recently compared the situation now to the aftermath of the Soviet intervention in Hungary 1956 when 200,000 Hungarians escape their own home country. In the end hundred and 80,000 of those were resettled in Austrian Yugoslavia upfront exceeded from Austria and Yugoslavia to cholo total of 37 different countries. The first 100,000 of them in under 10 weeks or so. So the parallels in the irony is striking that Hungary is going to some significant lengths in making sure people don't come in and if they do they move onwards to other places in Europe since it's got even as far far as saying that you know the date. Consider taking in Christian refugees but not Muslim once and that's certainly something that can be supported under international law right in them. That was that. That's what I was headed is what are the kinds of arguments that Hungary's making to justify justify this while hungry, saying things like well know me wants to actually stay here. They want to move on to Germany. So who are we to keep them here essentially remember what I said about assigning responsibility to one state writer entry into the European Union and under those circumstances. This by way something called a doubling convention that does this. Under under Dublin rules Hungary may well be the country that actually passed the responsibility to review the asylum because it was made there because it was made, there were because that's the first point of entry into the European Union and whatnot but but Dublin mean it has actually been defunct with subversive arrivals both in Greece and Italy where the situation is. Reception conditions are so bad that both the European Court of Justice and the European Court of human rights has essentially said do not send people back to Greece is in particular because of the conditions that fall well short of acceptable standards. Dublin's kind of mean, if there's anything that suspended its Dublin that's that suspended but by its own logic. Hungary would be responsible for reviewing these claims, which is also problematic if it's actually doing the so-called asylum screaming within a few hours and declining to extend refugee status to people who are by and large have a have a legitimate claim. Are there particular places in Europe which are much better for the refugees to end up just in terms of the kinds of benefits they might recite the welcome they might receive what I mean, that's part part of the pull factors argument tried it made if you if you had to choose between Hungary and Germany, you probably should choose Germany because that actually has a much longer standing refugee protection regime. Although it now is of course also saying it's in there isn't overwhelmed with with the arrivals, but it takes its time to work through the asylum aberrations all the perception of leases that you probably get a better hearing in a place like

Germany, then you might be in Hungary, which is a newer signatory to the refugee convention and as such may not have the legal and infrastructural capacity to deal adequately with asylum claims. Now I know that you know there's been ample photographs circulated of the refugee camps in places like the Greek islands of coasters last post or no people sleeping along the highways as they move from South up to the northern part of Europe. But let's see once refugees reach a place like Germany where they intend to apply for asylum where they stay they might be staying amazing to be determined. Bye-bye. The local governments essentially and that's been somewhat problematic in Germany. We were in Germany over the summer were able to witness some of this firsthand that certain. For example, decommissioned hotels might be turned into asylum homes is to go to buildings might be assigned as places where asylum applicants will live and we've seen an increase in attacks against these kinds of buildings even before they become occupied so that they may not be occupied right so it's basically the government's decision how one where they're going to house the people in the case of Germany because it's federal, state of the individual Glenda have something to say about how many and where and went where they going to be housed. There's actually a quota system in Germany though that that divvies up the asylum applicants to the individual lender having to do with their their tax revenues population in size and whatnot so I know you don't. We been talking on most exclusively about refugees from Syria to start certain extent Iraq. But as you mentioned at the beginning of the interview that there's there's quite a significant numbers of refugees from Eritrea right now. I'm wondering if you talk about those refugees what they are experience is right now. Well any AirTran is a little bit of a difficult different situation right every tray as become independent from from Ethiopia in 1993 and has since has a government that actually has significant human rights problems proms with due process. They have something that's bordering on forced conscription that actually was initially meant to provide a labor force to to build up the country for a period of time, but has now since become an almost indefinite servitude to to the government so so were seeing quite a number of people something on the order of 5000 by a month or so leaving Eritrea to go go to places which makes them one of the bigger nationalities that are showing up in Europe. Now the difference between AirTran Syria is that there is not been on the on the face of it, there's no active war of sorts about the circumstances are such that Eritreans ending up in your about fairly good chances of being actually recognized as refugees. I read recently that the numbers are somewhere on the order of maybe 90% of the applicant, will in fact actually get protected status. A lot of them actually and in Scandinavian other places to and are many of the Eritrean refugees going to Israel my under misconceptions about that. Okay you listening to buck now occupied here are 90.5 WPB you and make chatters in the studio tonight talking about refugees in particular refugees traveling to Europe I if you're interested in asking a question please give us a call here in the studio of the numbers 57057753489. So last month a set of pictures was published I showing the millions of empty tents outside of Mecca. I which as the Saudi Arabian government had constructed in order to house those coming for the pilgrimage.

Every year I and the pictures were always the circulated with the intent of shaming the Saudi government for not making these facilities available to eat refugees from Syria or Iraq or elsewhere summoning the continued talk about that issue. Why is it that the majority of of refugees have gone to places like Lebanon and Turkey and why have I wealthy are governments not in fact I can amend rank while several Middle Eastern countries have taken a total of about form 4 million people there as I mentioned earlier turkeys got 1.9 million George Jordan's God's 630,000 Lebanon's got 1.1 million. These lead the charge. But even Iraq even Iraq itself embattled in a country of origin for refugees. They've taken people to the tune of 1/4 million, so has Egypt itself somewhat destabilized Saudi Arabia and the Gulf countries having taken exactly none. And these are generally wealthy countries. Now, I don't think GDP per capita is the best economic indicator but just so we have a sense of what were talking about Kuwait for example has a GDP of 52,000 dollars GDP per capita hired by the way than that of Germany would stands currently at 46,000 there's Qatar there's Oman there's Bahrain by Haynes GDP per capita is to a 4000 is United Arab Emirates their GDP per capita is 43,009 realize UDP again per capita is not the best economic indicator because wealth is concentrated in a small number of citizens but still so they haven't taken anybody and they have been pledging money on the other hand, equates against members 52,000 per per capita GDP has pledged eight, 800 million United Arab Emirates has given 364 million. To put that in perspective, the amount of money that Turkey where per capita GDP is about \$11,000 has spent on caring for refugees is \$6 billion. This might strike people's eyes, the Gulf states began rubbing their much wealthier than those states have accepted refugees as you were saying. Some argue that they have a moral obligation to take in refugees, especially as some are directly involved in the Civil War and Syria through supporting rebel groups. This right but at the same time. None of the Gulf states are signatories to the Geneva Convention that I've been talking about. So technically they're not obligated to take anybody in which leaves us the shaming option right yes this is the legal option is not particularly pressing on the Gulf states are generally reluctant to see migrants as anything but temporary labor and won't issue resident permits to about a handful, which also creates a situation even if they were to take people and these people would also be likewise not on substantial legal footing. So yes there wealthier countries and no they haven't taken a lot of people or have anybody at all what function like on a more abstract level, what function do you see this rhetoric of a over crisis in Europe doing well Irene it it attracts attention. It focuses attention. The crisis in Europe is more often than not portrayed as a this is a problem for Europe love the lots on lots of people are coming. We don't have this base we don't have the resources to to deal with this that tell the crisis is actually being being seen, whereas what were really talking about is a crisis of global proportions that doesn't just stop at the door of Syria and if we look at United Nations High Commissioner's numbers. It's actually been a very, very difficult couple of years. A recent reports from the UNHCR puts the number of people forced from their homes by the end of 2014, at roughly 60 million globally. If this was the population of a country. It will be the 24th most populous country in the

world differently. This is roughly the population of Italy or the United Kingdom. Her name of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees says about one in every 122 people is either an asylum seeker refugee or an internally displaced person. These are the largest numbers we've seen since UNHCR's Exhibit 65 year history about 14 million of these 60 million strong displaced people are newly displaced in 2014 alone, and 11 million of these internally and about 3 million of these are in and internationally as the numbers are actually quite staggering of the number of people forced to leave their homes per day increase fourfold in four years and average of 42 1/2 thousand have left their homes each day in 2014 alone globally there about 20 million recognize refugees the highest on record since 1995, more than half of these come from for five countries, including Syria, Afghanistan, Somalia, Eritrea and Iraq enter. Interestingly, most of these people roughly the 86% of these people are hosted on what we would call developing countries. So we talk about the European crisis is important to bear this in mind that actually the crisis is elsewhere. The top hosting 2014 were Turkey, Pakistan, Lebanon, Iran, Ethiopia, and Jordan. Countries that can be described as least developed countries provided asylum to roughly 3 1/2 million refugees, 25% of the global stocks to some of the world's poorest countries are shouldering a disproportionate amount of responsibility and I think it's important to remember that as were talking about the European crisis using that ineffective the idea of the European crisis is actually actually obscuring that the structural reality that I in fact, Europe is bearing very small Russian I refugees Lebanon and a country that is 1/100 of the size of the European Union is has already taken an eight times as many people as the minuscule numbers that are actually being vehemently contested in the European Union. Now I'm wondering is as you're talking about this and to what extent, to what extent are our people, and policymakers order or politicians concerned that in fact note that this is our current situation right given the instability particular in the Middle East, but as climate change continues to amplify vitamin. We are going to be looking at a situation where the numbers of climate refugees arising right exponentially and to what extent are people thinking that the way in which the current situation is handled is going to infect prefigure the way in which climate refugees are handled right well Irene, from a legal standpoint end and I like to remind everybody that the refugee convention goes back to 1951 won't work really talking about global warming and writing recognized it wasn't right and it actually doesn't cover climate refugees to the people who would be displaced as a result of climate induced forced displacement, at least as the as as the convention is written. Currently they were in effect qualified, we would have to come up with some other category of of protection for those individuals whose claim would not correspond to the definition that's currently in the refugee convention. This of course is being talked about as one of the shortcomings of the of the treaty but of course note was negotiated many many decades ago and captured that particular political reality. At the time I was thinking of things like the stores we add that to this, the numbers that I'm talking about now would in fact be by a large covered by the current regime. If you add climate refugees to this, you have a much bigger scale set of problems that are going to be coming our way. I think

this sounds like a huge profit and also one that you know many, many states might be interested in in preventing climate refugees from becoming an acknowledged category within the legal framework but at the same time it seems that we could make the argument that we have a responsibility. Things have changed. New categories have arisen our legal system has not kept pace with it, doesn't mean we don't engage the issue. UNHCR is going to be a saddled probably with with dealing with more of the more of the kinds of populations that actually legally doesn't have a particular mandate for as it is now. For example, being called upon to deal with internally displaced people UNHCR the way it was originally conceived, was supposed to be dealing with internationally displaced people, but now it reversing that all a lot more people are displaced internally than they might be internationally as a result of the nobility to cross borders and a whole host of other factors. United Nations I Commissioner forever. Just even though it actually lacks a specific legal mandate has found itself in a position where it's been called upon to deal with what we now call IDP's, I can imagine a similar set of scenario scenarios that would actually drop this on UNHCR's lack also. But this is not an organization with infinite resources harvest the right so I'm from from your perspective as a scholar of these matters might have. What's the way forward. I admit how how how do these issues begin to be tackled in a way that does more than simply shuffle people around until no one's complaining too much about having to bear the burden. I wish I had a crystal ball, but unfortunately I had to say this, I think it'll get worse before it gets any better, we should expect and prepare for a steady stream not just from Syria but from other destabilized areas. If were talking about Seery other million internally displaced people. I don't mean to suggest that all of them tomorrow are going to decide the revamp of the leave Syria, but is not entirely unreasonable for them to especially if the situation continues to detect it deteriorating that were not able to arrest nevermind reverse the situation that you can see a scenario where where the internally displaced people become desperate enough to want to become internationally displaced and series not the only place United Nations expects 10 million in need of humanitarian assistance of some sort in Iraq by the end of this year alone by 500,000 might be displaced if Iraqi forces try to take back muscle for my sister in all the wrong on unfolding circumstances on the ground are likely to cause population displacement. Also in the region is deeply unstable and feeds refugee flows. So what's the way forward. I mean one thing to collectively consider is first of all, defined are located. Our common humanity and and look at the ongoing crisis from that angles a great degree of solidarity is called for here with people who are forcibly replaced it displaced but also with countries trying to offer protection, countries of origin host host countries have to ask acting ways to protect the rights of all people in their territories recipient countries should also fulfill their obligations to refugees and not see the problem. The solution to the problem merely in repelling them so they don't have to deal with the problem. The international community needs to support host states through financial support through technical support through resettlement places engagement and governance in a variety of other contributions. So far, United Nations, of course, going around had in hand trying to basically most efforts right right trying to

secure pleasures only has only been able to secure 37% of what is asking for and only for Syria along right so there's a lot of need to find the resources and allocate the resources to deal with it you. I would also say solidarity is also required of civil society organizations a cupcake commit communities and concerned individuals who by the way, oftentimes, are the ones who make the most meaningful and timely contributions in an immense like this. Efforts need to be stepped up to de-escalate conflict in hotspots in Syria and elsewhere. If the current headlines are any indication. Unfortunately, this will be much easier said than done. Things are tense in Iraq and also in Afghanistan convinced was in the news is having his own choices right and also I would say and I don't mean to say that we shouldn't focus our attention on on Syria. But as we do that as we focus our attention on Syrian refugees. We should also not forget other refugees as well. While the Middle East gets our attention. We shouldn't forget about forced displacement in Africa and elsewhere. While it's been a real pleasure talking with you tonight and make I appreciate you coming into the studio. Thanks for having me. I appreciated